

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 04879 01 OF 02 030924Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----008761 030934Z /14

O P 030815Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2475
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ANKARA 4879

EXDIS- MIL ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, TU, CY, US
SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH ECEVIT ON EMBARGO AND RELATED ISSUES.

REF: (A) STATE 162536 (DTG 262316Z JUN 78)
(B) STATE 167251 (DTG 302238Z JUN 78)
(C) STATE 166974 (DTG 272318Z JUN 78)
(D) STATE 167339 (DTG 302343Z JUN 78) (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: ECEVIT EXPRESSED GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH OUR PROPOSAL ON VAROSHA AND HAS ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO GIVE US A DETAILED RESPONSE JULY 3. HE AGREED TO OUR ANNOUNCEMENT ON COMMENCEMENT OF US-TURKISH NEGOTIATIONS ON A PRISONER EXCHANGE TREATY. HE AND OKCUN WERE SUSPICIOUS OF OUR MOTIVES IN RAISING THE ISSUE OF GREEK RE-ENTRY INTO NATO. END SUMMARY.

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2. ECEVIT CALLED ME IN JULY 1 BOTH TO PROVIDE A BRIEFING ON HIS SOVIET TRIP AND TO GIVE ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES RAISED IN MY INSTRUCTIONS (REF A) FOR WHICH I HAD EARLIER REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT. FONMIN OKCUN AND MFA SECGEN ELEKDAG JOINED THE DISCUSSION. SOVIET TRIP COVERED SEPTEL.

3. AFTER DESCRIBING OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION, I SAID THAT WE BASICALLY COULD TAKE TWO APPROACHES. ONE WAS TO STAND PAT, WHILE THE OTHER WOULD BE TO USE THE NEXT FEW WEEKS TO DO WHAT WE COULD TO BRING SOME OF THE MANY UNDECIDED MEMBERS OVER TO OUR SIDE. I POINTED OUT THAT THE DENKTASH STATEMENT OF MAY 22 HAD BEEN VERY HELPFUL, AND STRESSED MY PERSONAL VIEW THAT SOME FURTHER DRAMATIC ACTIONS ON CYPRUS OR GREEK/TURKISH RELATIONS COULD BE VERY EFFECTIVE. I SAID THE SECRETARY WISHED ME TO DISCUSS A NUMBER OF ISSUES IN THIS CONTEXT, INCLUDING OUR RECENT DRAFT PAPER ON VAROSHA.

4. ECEVIT SAID HE HAD CAREFULLY STUDIED OUR PAPER ON VAROSHA AND THAT HE BASICALLY AGREED WITH IT. HE THOUGHT THERE SHOULD BE MODIFICATIONS ON ONE OR TWO POINTS, BUT THESE DID NOT GO DIRECTLY TO THE SUBSTANCE. HE SAID THIS WAS DENKTASH'S ATTITUDE AS WELL. HE HAD DIRECTED THE MFA TO GO OVER OUR DRAFT WITH HIS COMMENTS IN MIND. HE SAID WE SHOULD TALK EITHER WITH ELEKDAG OR TULUMEN ON MONDAY REGARDING THE DETAILS.

5. ECEVIT OBSERVED THAT, AS WE HAD POINTED OUT IN OUR PAPER, THIS PROPOSAL WAS BASED ON A SUGGESTION OF WALDHEIM. WALDHEIM SEEMED TO WANT TO RECONVENE THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS BUT HAD MADE DIFFICULTIES FOR HIMSELF. ECEVIT THOUGHT VAROSHA

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COULD PRESENT A WAY OUT FOR WALDHEIM. HE SAID IT WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT THAT WALDHEIM HIMSELF COME FORWARD WITH THE PROPOSAL ON VAROSHA AND THAT DENKTASH, BY PRIOR AGREEMENT, COULD IMMEDIATELY REPLY IN A POSITIVE VEIN. HE SAID DENKTASH COULD MAKE THE PROPOSAL HIMSELF, BUT ECEVIT THOUGHT THIS WOULD NOT BE AS EFFECTIVE. OKCUN ADDED THAT PERHAPS A SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT COULD BE WORKED OUT REGARDING REOPENING THE NICOSIA AIRPORT.

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2476

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ANKARA 4879

EXDIS- MIL ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

6. PRISONER EXCHANGE. I DESCRIBED OUT POSITION, DRAWING ON NIMETZ'S CONVERSATION WITH ESENBEL (REF D), A REPORT OF WHICH HAD NOT YET REACHED THEM. ECEVIT WAS NOT WELL INFORMED, BUT WAS EAGER TO FIND A QUICK SOLUTION. OKCUN WANTED TO KNOW WHY WE COULD NOT ACCEDE TO THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION AND WAS INITIALLY SOMEWHAT RESISTANT TO THE CONCEPT OF A BILATERAL TREATY. IN THE END, HE SEEMED TO ACCEPT OUR EXPLANATION. I SHOWED THEM A COPY OF OUR DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT, AND THEY READILY AGREED THAT WE SHOULD GO AHEAD WITH IT. ASKED ABOUT TIMING, WE SUGGESTED THAT, FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT, THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT WANT TO MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT JULY 10 WHEN CONGRESS WOULD BE RETURNING FROM RECESS.

7. GREEK RE-ENTRY INTO NATO. BOTH ECEVIT AND OKCUN REACTED RATHER SHARPLY TO MY PRESENTATION ALONG THE LINES OF REF B. ECEVIT SAID THAT TURKEY SHOULD NOT HAVE TO PAY FOR GREEK
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RE-ENTRY BY MAKING CONCESSIONS IN REGARD TO ITS NATURAL RIGHTS IN THE AEGEAN. OKCUN SUGGESTED THAT GREECE MIGHT BE TRYING TO USE THE EMBARGO "TO SOLVE THIS ISSUE ALSO". HE EXPRESSED IRRITATION THAT GENERAL HAIG HAD REACHED AN AGREEMENT WITHOUT TALKING TO TURKEY. ON THIS LATTER POINT, I SAID THAT TURKEY HAD IN FACT BEEN KEPT INFORMED AND THAT IT WAS PERFECTLY NORMAL FOR AN ARRANGEMENT SUCH AS THIS TO BE WORKED OUT AT THE MILITARY LEVEL SUBJECT TO POLITICAL APPROVAL. WE OURSELVES HAD NOT YET BEEN GIVEN THE DETAILS.

8. I STRESSED THAT WE WERE NOT ASKING TURKEY TO TAKE A POSITION ONE WAY OR THE OTHER ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS ISSUE. THE US STRONGLY BELIEVED THAT GREEK RE-ENTRY WAS

IMPORTANT. WE HOPED THAT TURKEY WOULD SUPPORT THIS OBJECTIVE WHILE OF COURSE DEFENDING ITS OWN INTERESTS. OUR PURPOSE IN RAISING THE ISSUE IN THIS CONTEXT WAS SIMPLY TO POINT OUT THAT WE WERE CONCERNED THAT WHATEVER STATEMENTS TURKEY MIGHT MAKE ON THIS SUBJECT HAVE AS POSITIVE A CAST AS POSSIBLE, KEEPING THE CONGRESSIONAL SITUATION IN MIND, I MADE A SIMILAR POINT REGARDING THE GREECE/TURKEY TALKS OPENING TUESDAY, BUT TIME DID NOT PERMIT A MORE EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER.

9. TROOP WITHDRAWALS. AFTER REFERRING TO ECEVIT'S DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER WITH THE PRESIDENT, I EXPRESSED MY VIEW THAT THE KIND OF STATEMENT THAT WOULD HAVE A MAJOR IMPACT IN CONGRESS WOULD BE ONE THAT INDICATED TURKEY WAS PREPARED TO MAKE FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL TROOP WITHDRAWALS ONCE NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN RECONVENED. ECEVIT ACKNOWLEDGED THE POINT, BUT DID NOT RESPOND.
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